

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 157077
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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 157077

FOR EA ONLY, MANILA POUCH CEBU

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PDIP, SHUM, ENRG, OVIP (MARCOS, IMELDA), RP

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - PHILIPPINES

1. INCIDENT IN NEW YORK (CONFIDENTIAL)

WHILE AWAITING REPORT OF AMBASSADOR MURPHY'S MEETING WITH ROMULO TO PRESENT OUR NOTE EXPRESSING "DEEP REGRET" WE ARE STILL PRESSING NEW YORK (HOST COUNTRY RELATIONS, USUN) TO OBTAIN THE FINAL POLICE REPORT ON THE INCIDENT. MEANWHILE, AS OF JUNE 19 ROMULO WAS STILL BEING QUOTED AS TAKING AN EXTREMELY BELLIGERENT LINE, REPORTEDLY DEMANDING "PUNITIVE ACTION" AGAINST THE POLICE INVOLVED.

2. FIRST LADY TO THE U.S. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

EMBASSY MANILA INFORMS US THAT MRS. MARCOS MIGHT VISIT THE UNITED STATES FOLLOWING A VISIT TO MOSCOW SCHEDULED
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PAGE 02 STATE 157077

TO BEGIN JUNE 28-29. IF MRS. MARCOS COMES, IMMIGRATION COMMISSIONER REYES WOULD FLY TO NEW YORK TO JOIN HER. IN AN EFFORT TO FOLLOW THIS ONE, WE ARE IN CONTACT WITH INS SINCE COMMISSIONER CASTILLO WAS RECENTLY ENTERTAINED IN MANILA BY REYES, AND EXPECTS TO HEAR FROM THE LATTER IF HIS PLANS TO COME TO NEW YORK MATERIALIZE.

3. ENERGY (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

AN ADVANCE COPY OF A LETTER FROM ENERGY MINISTER VELASCO TO THE AID DIRECTOR INFORMED US THAT THE GOP PREFERENCES LATE-AUGUST EARLY SEPTEMBER FOR THE (CAREFULLY TAILORED) U.S. ENERGY TEAM PROJECTED AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE VICE PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE.

IN RESPONSE TO OUR LATER SUGGESTION THAT A DOE TEAM GOING TO JAKARTA AND BANGKOK IN EARLY JULY ALSO STOP IN MANILA TO MEET WITH ASEAN OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS A POSSIBLE ASEAN ENERGY AGENDA FOR THE FORTHCOMING U.S.-ASEAN MINISTERIAL, SENIOR ENERGY MINISTRY OFFICIAL TELEPHONED EMBASSY JUNE 19 TO STATE THAT VELASCO WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE ON PROPOSED JULY 5-6 DATES, AND THAT LATE AUGUST EARLIEST SUITABLE TIME. EMBASSY IS OF OPINION THAT VELASCO DESIRES TO CONTINUE HIS PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT IN ALL ENERGY DISCUSSIONS AND RECOMMENDS VISIT BE RE-SCHEDULED. WE ARE CURRENTLY DISCUSSING WITH THE DOE HOW TO HANDLE THIS POTENTIAL CONFLICT. WE STILL HOPE TO ADVANCE PREPARATIONS ON ENERGY MATTERS WITH ASEAN BEFORE THE AUGUST MINISTERIAL MEETING.

4. PLEASE NOTE FOR EA ONLY CAPTION.

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PAGE 03 STATE 157077

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